

These inexpensive and safe facilities range from high-rise buildings with hundreds of beds to small remote hostels in rural setting found throughout Alaska.

Hostel volunteers act as ambassadors for their communities and for our nation by administering travel education programs to young and old. Alaskan hostels have welcomed and housed guests since the early 1960's, in a diverse set of locations including: Central Juneau, Ketchikan, Nome, Anchorage, Delta Junction, Fairbanks, Haines, Homer, Sitka, Tok, Willow, Girdwood, Slana and Ninilchik.

I commend Hostelling International USA for its 75 years of continued quality service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
MAYOR, THE COMMON COUNCIL
AND THE RESIDENTS OF THE
CITY OF LACKAWANNA ON THE
OCCASION OF THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THEIR MUNICIPAL
INCORPORATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to the Mayor, the Common Council and the residents of the City of Lackawanna on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their municipal incorporation.

The fortunes of this great City are emblematic of the struggles of the entire region. Having experienced the difficulties associated with the decline of heavy industry in recent decades, Lackawanna has turned the corner and now demonstrates a new spirit of hope and optimism under the leadership of its esteemed Mayor and Council.

Due in significant part to the diligence and hard work of the Mayor and the Council, the site of the former Bethlehem Steel plant—long a symbol of post-industrial decay and disinvestment, is now a beacon of progress as it is home to the nation's largest urban wind farm. This project is a testament to the tenacity of the Mayor, the Council and the people of this great city, and has been a symbol of the resurgence of the entire region. Through this effort, Lackawanna has demonstrated that the time has come to build upon our industrial past and move toward a prosperous, green future.

On this 100th Anniversary, I would like to congratulate the great City of Lackawanna on its recent successes and to thank the leadership for shepherding innovative ideas to preserve and enhance the Great City of Lackawanna. I commend and thank Lackawanna residents for the example they have set for other communities in Western New York. As we celebrate our history, we also acknowledge that our best days are immediately in front of us, and that progress and prosperity are on the horizon. I wish the leadership in the City of Lackawanna and its people the best of luck in the future as it continues to grow and prosper.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA HONORAIR VETERANS

HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from Northwest Louisiana.

On May 16, 2009 a group of 104 veterans and their guardians flew to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these Louisiana veterans to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight, free of charge. For many, this will be the first and only opportunity to visit the memorials created in their honor. These brave men and women, from my home state of Louisiana, deserve the thanks of a grateful nation for everything they have sacrificed for our freedom.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thank them for their unselfish service.

Robert M. Acosta, Edward E. Allen, William J. Archambeau, Francis W. Artley, Carl A. Barr, Clifford A. Birchfield, Joe E. Bizet, Richard E. Blake, Dudley H. Boddie, Roy Timon Buckner, Robert L. Bufkin, Jesse E. Burkheart, Adolph B. Campbell, Willard E. Charrier, James A. Clark, George Cockerham, Claude M. Corbett, Joe R. Crain, Alonza Crawford, Joe H. Curtis, Willie V. Dark, R. Debusk, Sammuel D. Doles, Thomas B. Erwin, Jack B. Evans, James E. Evans, Frank H. Falkenberry, Daniel W. Fallin, James, L. Fallin, James H. Fisher, Frank H. Ford, John C. Foster, Paul D. Gandy, Jesus Garcia, James C. Gardner, Leo J. Garner, Leon C. Green, Claude Gulley, Joseph Warren Harris, Tom N. Havard, James W. Helton, Charles M. Henley, Edward J. Heuer, John N. Holman, John L. Iles, Joe M. Ivey, Loin Jacob, James Prentice Johnson, Alvin B. Kessler, Oscar C. Laborde, Charles A. Lammons, Joseph H. LeBeau, Gus D. Levy, Clayton E. Manning, W.C. Mayfield, Mary E. McMahon, Leonard S. Micinski, Charles E. Monson, McLuther Monzingo, Donald R. Moreau, Lucien L. Oldham, Elmore C. Owens, Lester L. Pace, Frederick E. Parker, Robert A. Peiser, J.L. Pennington, Carlos B. Perez, Wallace P. Perryman, James Ferrell Reeder, James E. Rigal, Kenneth Roberts, Richard Roy, James G. Sandifer, Ira R. Schulling, Luther E. Self, Geroge E. Shanks, Whilman G. Sheets, James L. Shelton, Cecil O. Simmons, Shirley R. Simmons, Richard D. Smart, Shurman C. Smith, Robert A. Stacy, Roy E. Stickman, Fletcher Thorne-Thomsen, Maurice S. Thrasher, Carroll E. Timmons, Bobby G. Turrentine, Howard V. Walker, Clomer Walton, Ray M. Ward, William B. Wardlaw, Carl J. Waters, Billy J. Wells, Claude O. West, G.F. White, James Wilson, Allen J. Wiltz, Marcus D. Wren.

HONORING MR. HELMUTH J.H. BAERWALD

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Helmuth J.H. Baerwald who is

retiring after faithfully serving the residents, businesses and elected officials of East Norriton Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania for 32 years.

Mr. Baerwald's distinguished career of public service to East Norriton started in May 1977 when he became the Township's Finance Officer and Assistant Manager. A little more than three years later, he was appointed Township Manager and Secretary/Treasurer.

Evidence of Mr. Baerwald's outstanding leadership during the last four decades abounds. He was instrumental in the building of a Veterans Memorial at Old Stanbridge Street and Germantown Pike. He was a driving force in establishing a sister city program between East Norriton and Treptow-Kopenick, Germany. And his prudent investment and management practices helped the Township acquire a 35-acre municipal complex, including the Township offices, storage facility and highway department garage.

Mr. Baerwald earned the respect of his peers and elected officials with his sharp administrative skills, which have been invaluable as the Township has grown. In addition to serving the Township, Mr. Baerwald selflessly gave his time to several organizations, including the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors and the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the outstanding service and extraordinary career of Helmuth J. H. Baerwald and all who dedicate their careers to serving the public.

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE BY MARGE JOHANNES OF SAUK RAPIDS, MINNESOTA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marge Johannes of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota as she celebrates her 90th birthday. Marge is known as "Grandma Marge" to the students at Pleasantview Elementary School, where she volunteers as a Foster Grandparent, a role she has played for over 20 years.

As a Foster Grandma, Marge spends four hours a day helping students and assisting the teachers. She even takes time to provide childcare for the Adult Basic Education classes. When many students and teachers are taking a break from school, Grandma Marge helps with the summer school programs in the Sauk Rapids-Rice School District. She is the definition of grace, bringing a love of learning to the schools at which she volunteers and sharing a smile with all she meets. All the students know that her favorite book is the dictionary, because she likes to learn something new every day and she spreads that kind of earnest enthusiasm everywhere she goes.

It is my honor to rise to wish Grandma Marge a "Happy Ninetieth Birthday" today and to thank her for her lifetime of service to her community. She is a teacher to us all, demonstrating the important values of service and citizenship. But, to the children, she is so much more: She's a member of their family; their Grandma Marge.